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PRESS RELEASE

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IMA- Europe US. Army Garrison Dining Facilities to represent Europe in the 2005 DA Connelly Competition

Heidelberg, GE – Two Installation Management Agency – Europe (IMA-E) food service organizations were named the best in their respective categories in the European Regional competition for the 38th Annual Philip A. Connelly Award Program for Excellence in Army Food Service. These two organizations will represent Europe at Department of the Army and the International Food Service Executive Association (IFSEA) level competition. Judges will visit the dining facilities between September and December 2005.

The 100th Area Support Group Dining Facility, Camp Normandy, Grafenwoehr, representing the 100th Area Support Group and 7th Army Training Center, won in the Large Garrison Dining Facility category.

The 1st Battalion 10th Special Forces Group Dining Facility, Panzer Kaserne, Stuttgart, representing the 6th Area Support Group, won in the Small Garrison Dining Facility category.

The Philip A. Connelly Award Program for Excellence in Army Food Service was established in March 1968 to promote and recognize excellence in Army Food Service with the co-sponsorship of the IFSEA.

The Connelly competition is comprised of two active duty garrison categories. The active duty garrison categories are:

- Small dining facilities, these are facilities with a capacity to serve 400 soldiers or less.

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Competition

- Large dining facilities with a capacity to serve over 401 soldiers.

The Connelly Awards Program has had a major impact on the degree of professionalism now associated with Army food service. The program's fringe benefits have caused specific improvements in the quality of food and food service provided to the soldier.

The program is named after Philip A. Connelly. Connelly was a professional in the food service management field and former president of the IFSEA. He worked throughout his life to promote professionalism in the food service, in both the civilian industry and military service. As a result civilian and military food service programs are more closely aligned and personnel in these programs now have uniform goals in education, training, career development and job opportunities.

The IFSEA is a professional organization dedicated to raising food standards, educating members and future industry leaders. They place great emphasis in the recognition of its members and their achievements.

"We are so proud of the accomplishments of our food operations NCOs, cooks, and U.S. Army Garrison food program management teams. They continue to deliver the very best in food and service available in Europe," said Mr. Michael J. Damico, HQs IMA-E Food Program Manager. "They are success-oriented high-achievers, focused on doing it right the first time and maintaining the highest standards in food preparation and service for our Soldiers. Their work touches thousands of Soldiers, DA civilians and family members of deployed Soldiers every day, it's a pleasure to know their hard work is recognized."

-30-

The U.S. Army Installation Management Agency, Europe (IMA-E) is one of seven regional offices created Oct. 1, 2002, as part of an Army-wide initiative to focus management of Army installations around the world under one organization. IMA-E is responsible for all facets of support for U.S. Army Soldiers and families in Europe from drivers licenses to child care to force protection. As the landlord for all U.S. Army facilities in Europe, IMA-E is responsible for infrastructure and continuing the Army's strong commitment to environmental protection. Its higher headquarters is located in Arlington, Va.